

NOVEMBER 2019

David L. Omura, DPT, MHA, MS  
Columbia VA Health Care System Director/CEO

## Director's Monthly Report

I hope everyone enjoyed Veterans Day and had a chance to show their appreciation for those who have, and continue to, serve our country. We are already half way through the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2020 and, as always, many exciting things are taking place to better serve our Veterans and improve the workplace for our staff. We finished up FY19 with continued growth in unique patients (85,100), as well as our number of Women Veterans being served (9,339 +10.8% 2 Year Change). Our ongoing efforts to partner with the community are evident through the many events, initiatives and partnerships throughout the state. Our journey to become the best VA Health Care System cannot be accomplished alone, and I thank everyone who is involved: Veterans, families, staff, and our many community partners and supporters.

### 2019 VA All Employee Survey: Your Voice is Being Heard

Your All Employee Survey feedback continues to be used to make improvements across the Columbia VA Health Care System. Some examples include: Improved lighting is being installed in SPS, improved process for providing snacks for patients in the inpatient units, and planning that is underway for renovations of locker rooms and restrooms in the basement of Building 100. We also continue to focus on areas and workgroups with lower scores to address issues that have been identified and to make our organization the best place to work.



SPS area with old lighting



SPS area with new lighting

### FY20 Data (Columbia and CBOCs):

Unique Patients FYTD: 41,981

Women Veterans Treated FYTD: 5,014

Outpatient Visits FYTD: 105,351

[Link to report for VA Employees](#)

[Link to report for all Stakeholders](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### November 15

Rock Hill Veteran Town Hall

Food Truck Friday

#### November 4-26

Women Veterans Art Exhibit

#### November 19-22

GEMS Triannual Audit

#### December 5

Midlands Veteran Engagement Council

#### December 6

Strategic Planning Summit





## Monthly Spotlight

### **Auditorium Building 5 Renovation**

Building 5 is currently undergoing both exterior and interior renovations. The exterior pillars and trim are being repainted and the interior is receiving updated HVAC equipment and lighting upgrades. Thanks to Engineering for their work to improve this historic building and make it more usable for all.



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October 2019



November 2019

## Reviews, Visits, Other Events

### **Veterans Day Celebration Event**

On Wednesday, November 6th the Columbia VA HCS held their annual Veterans Day Celebration outside of D-100. There were many community groups and speakers who participated and made it a memorable event. Thanks to everyone who coordinated and participated in this event honoring our nation's Veterans.



### **Radiology Technician Week**

Our radiology department celebrated Radiology Technician Week beginning on November 4th. The team held several events for staff and visitors throughout the week to show their appreciation for what our radiology technicians do to provide quality services.

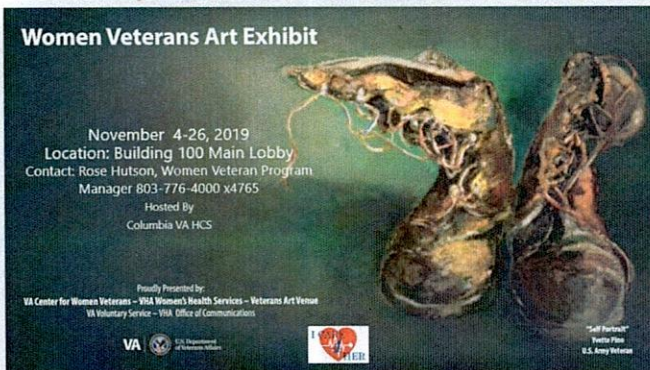




## Reviews, Visits, Other Events

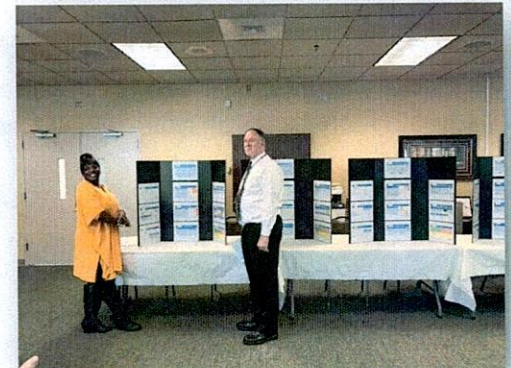
### **Women Veterans Art Exhibit**

The Women Veteran Program is hosting a Women Veterans Art Exhibit in the main lobby from November 4-26. When you are in the area stop by and see the amazing artwork from some of our Women Veterans. Thanks to Rose Hutson for putting the exhibit together.



### **Performance Improvement Recognition Event**

On November 6th the Columbia VA HCS Office of Process Improvement held a recognition event to showcase their many 2019 initiatives, and to recognize the work put in by the teams involved. Great work to all involved and the support given to the teams is appreciated.



### **Welcome New Employees**

We had 27 new employees in the November 12-14 New Employee Orientation group. Please welcome them to the Columbia VA HCS team!





## Reviews, Visits, Other Events

### **Fort Jackson Radiology Technician Students**

Radiology has been working closely with Fort Jackson's Moncrief Army Health Clinic to provide Phase II training for their X-Ray students. This is another example of the Columbia VA HCS being involved with our community partners and I look forward to further partnerships in the near future. Thanks to Dr. Caldwell and her team for making this happen and for sharing the great work being done for our Veterans.



*PFC Johnson with Gail Williams,  
Clinical Instructor, Moncrief Army Health Clinic*

### **Stand Down Event**

On October 18th the annual Homeless Veteran Stand Down Event was held at our Columbia campus. Over 230 Veterans attended the event, with 86 volunteers and 51 vendors participating. Nearly \$20,000 in non-monetary donations were received and there was a great turnout. Thanks to Sherry Martell and Michelle Howell, along with all others involved in coordinating this event. Outstanding job!





## **Staff Development and Education**

**The Prevention & Management of Disruptive Behavior Program (PMDB):** Level II is comprised of face-to-face training and PowerPoint presentation; Level III is hands-on practice of personal safety skills; Level IV is training in therapeutic containment.

### **PMDB dates:**

#### **Wednesday November 20, 2019**

Levels II & III Recertification: 0800-1200

Level IV Recertification: 1300-1630

#### **Tuesday December 3, 2019**

Levels II & III Recertification: 0800-1200

Level IV Recertification: 1300-1630

**\*\*All PMDB classes listed will be held in the VA Regional Office Classroom 1098\*\***

Please contact Matt Shealy, ext. 7315 to register

### **Healthy Living and Whole Health Well-Being Series:**

#### **Friday, November 15th**

1200-1300 "E-Cigarettes, the new Tobacco-Free VHA, and Smoking Cessation options for you and your patients"; Melanie Routhieaux, PharmD, Bldg. 106, D-100

**Leadership, Effectiveness, Accountability, Development (LEAD) Program-** A leadership program targeting **GS9- GS12, Wage Grade, and Title 38** equivalent high potential employees. LEAD is designed for employees who are interested in enhancing their leadership skills.

**Accepting Applications November 8, 2019—December 9, 2019**

**LEAD Kick-off January 27, 2020**



### **Ongoing Staff Development Opportunities**

All employees with at least one year of service are eligible for career development funding (\$500 for Non-Physicians, \$1000 for Physicians) per fiscal year for approved professional continuing education training (conferences, etc.) Trainings must support the mission of the Medical Center and enhance employee job performance. [Link for Employees](#)

On behalf of our entire leadership team, I want to thank you for serving our Veterans each and every day. I look forward to seeing you in the clinics and throughout our facilities.

David L. Omura, DPT, MHA, MS  
Medical Center Director/CEO



# Columbia VA Health Care System Updates

## December 4, 2019

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### Construction and Project Updates:

- **Behavioral Health Center of Excellence Additions:** Updating design package for HVAC system.
  - 15,000 sq ft
  - \$8.8 M
  - Project Duration: 540 days
- **Prosthetics and Sensory Aid Center:** Addressing A/E design/construction review comments. Comments are due December 10, 2019 for review.
  - 16,500 sq ft
  - \$8.3M
  - Project Duration: 540 calendar days
- **Center for Rehabilitative Services:** Addressing A/E design/construction review comments. Comments are due December 10, 2019 for review.
  - 15,000 sqft
  - \$9.5 M
  - Project Duration: 540 calendar days
- **Eye Clinic Center:** A/E is working towards 95% design completion. An IAA was executed with USACE in Q4FY19 for construction. USACE will conduct design reviews in conjunction with the VA as the design continues toward 100% design.
  - 15,000 sqft
  - \$9.3 M
  - Project Duration: 540 calendar days for construction
- **Parking Garage:** Projected physical completion date is December 13, 2019. Fall deterrent installation in progress.
  - 278 Spaces
  - \$9.9M
- **Clinic Addition:** Finalizing draft RFP (Request for Proposal) package for solicitation. Construction solicitation in Q2FY20.
  - 11,500 sqft
  - \$9M
  - Project Duration: 540 Calendar Days
- **Renovate Operating Room Suite:** Demolition is complete. MEP (Mechanical, Electrical, Plumbing) construction is in process.
  - 16,500 sqft
  - \$8M
  - Project Duration: 540 Calendar Days
- **Mental Health Inpatient Psych Unit:** Contractor is working through punch list items. Furniture installation is in progress. A/E investigating HVAC corrections to meet correct air flows and air exchanges. Engineering working the install modifications per Mental Health checklist.
  - 19,192 sqft
  - \$5M



- **Perimeter Fence:** Installation along Garner's Ferry Road, Old Woodlands Road, Veterans Road and the south property line is in progress.
  - \$2.4 M
  - Current contract completion of 28 FEB 2020.
- **Parking Garage Phase II:** 95% design has been received and reviewed. IAA executed with USACE for construction. This garage will be built next to the current parking garage.
  - \$9.9M
- **Building 106 Roof Replacement:** Flat and shingled portions of roof have been replaced.
- **Fisher House Site Prep:** FY20 funding secured for site prep. Waiting on site development package from FHF.
- **B10 Renovation:** Construction awarded. Construction fence to be installed by the week of December 9, 2019.
  - Approximately 18,000 sqft
  - \$12.8 M
- **Women's Health Center and Primary Care Clinic:** Developing Design/Build RFP for design award.
- **Sumter CBOC Replacement:** Agency level protest will end in December.
  - 19,900 net usable sqft
  - 18 months will be required to build out. **This date will be revised based on protest decision.**
  - Activation **This date will be revised/available based upon award to lessor.**
- **Orangeburg CBOC Replacement:** Real Property is scheduled to obligate the lease by end of FY19. Kick off meeting held on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
  - 17,500 net usable sqft
  - May 2020: Construction will begin. 18 month build out. **This date will be revised/available based upon outcome of kick-off meeting.**
  - Activation **This date will be revised/available based upon outcome of kick-off meeting.**
- **Rock Hill CBOC Replacement:** Plan to release RFP on December 10, 2019 as a set-aside. Pre-bid meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 18, 2019 and the TEB for the week of February 22, 2020.
  - 19,900 net usable sqft
  - November 2021: Construction to tentatively begin. 18 month build out. **This date will be revised based upon award to lessor.**
  - Activation **This date will be revised/available based upon award to lessor.**
- **Florence CBOC Replacement:** Waiting on responses from the RFP. Waiting on GSA delegation.
  - 22,772 net usable sqft.
  - Construction to tentatively begin in AUG 2022.